

**COMMITTEE ON ORDINANCES, CHARTER AND RULES
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2021 AT 6:25 P.M.
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
WOBURN CITY HALL**

Voting members president: Chairman Michael Concannon, Alderman Darlene Mercer-Bruen, Alderman Edward Tedesco, Alderman Joseph Demers, and Alderman Jeffrey Dillon

Non-voting members present: Alderman Robert Ferullo, Alderman Richard Gately, and Alderman Joanne Campbell. Absent: President Lindsay Higgins

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Reading of previous meeting minutes: Motion made by Alderman Tedesco and seconded by Alderman Demers to approve the minutes of the meeting of September 21, 2020; all in favor, 5-0.

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Petition by Alderman Tedesco to amend the 1985 Woburn Zoning Ordinances, as amended, by adding a new Section 2 Definitions “Pet Recreation and Pet Day Care Facility”, new line 5.1.35b Pet Recreation and Pet Day Care Facility less than or equal to 5,000 sq. ft. by right use in I-P, IP-2, I-G and B-I, new line 5.1.35c Pet Recreation and Pet Day Care Facility greater than 5,000 sq. ft. special permit use in I-P, IP-2, I-G and B-I, and new note 28 in Section 5.1: Chairman Concannon said pet recreation facilities less than 5,000-square feet will be allowed in the I-P, IP-2, I-G and B-I districts. He asked Alderman Tedesco to speak about the proposed ordinance. Motion made by Alderman Tedesco and seconded by Alderman Mercer-Bruen to accept a memorandum from Planning Director Tina Cassidy dated January 27, 2021, regarding the proposed zoning amendment; approved, 5-0. Alderman Tedesco said there is currently nothing in a zoning ordinance that addresses day care facilities for pets. He said the Planning Director drafted a recommendation in between the council’s public hearing and the Planning Board meeting of January 26. He said Alderman Mercer-Bruen suggested some changes, including the elimination of the by-right use and instead requiring a special permit. He said the Planning Board also recommended a special permit requirement. He said the Planning Board also recommended a 500-foot buffer zone requirement from residential zoning districts which is specified in Note 28. He said he wants to send the ordinance to the City Solicitor for review and incorporation of the Planning Board’s recommendations. Chairman Concannon asked if the council already sent the ordinance to the City Solicitor. Alderman Tedesco said the City Solicitor was in receipt of the document but he would like her to further review it and make any changes based on the Planning Board recommendation. Alderman Mercer-Bruen said the ordinance addresses day care facilities for pets that are dropped off by their owners and go home at the end of the day. She said there is no overnight boarding at these facilities. She said the special permit requirement provides adequate controls. She said these are places where dogs and cats will be able to hang out with like pets. She thanked Alderman Tedesco and the Planning Board for agreeing to the changes. She said this will be a way to protect neighbors. Motion made by Alderman Tedesco and seconded by Alderman Dillon to send the draft version of the ordinance to the City Solicitor for review and incorporation of the Planning Board

recommendations; approved, 5-0. Motion made by Alderman Tedesco and seconded by Alderman Mercer-Bruen to send the matter “back for action,” pending receipt of amendments from the City Solicitor; approved, 5-0.

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MOTION made by Alderman Tedesco and seconded by Alderman Mercer-Bruen to adjourn; all in favor, 5-0. Chairman Concannon adjourned the meeting at 6:30 p.m.